

Rockford Ill  
Sept 9/80

My dear Sir  
Lochia scoparia came  
up again this season on the  
same spot occupied by the plants  
found last summer but to my  
great disappointment was mowed  
off in a general clearing up of  
the premises. I was driving home  
through an unfrequented street with  
the loss of the plants still in mind  
when to my utter surprise I  
came upon a great patch of it  
where evidently no rubbish had been  
burned - and furthermore the next  
day I observed it growing in the  
stable yard adjoining an Irishman's  
shanty in the northern outskirts  
of the city more than a mile from  
the other localities mentioned.

in both places associated with  
hemp. It looks to me now as  
if it had come to stay -

I shall have some - to me at  
any rate - rather interesting Willows  
to send you soon -

Salix argyrocarpa Anders collected  
by H. Little on the White Mts about  
50 years ago are named "Salix  
Labradorica Schaw." Dice Schweinitz  
can publish any such species?

Andersson says that it is a  
gambelae native of Labrador - but  
therein he is mistaken -

Yours very truly  
M. S. Peck

Prof James Watson  
Cambridge Mass.

Rockford Ills

Prof James Watson  
Cambridge Mass

April 16/8,

My dear Sir:

I send today  
by mail the 1<sup>st</sup> fasciculus of my Herb.  
Salicium. I hope to continue this distribu-  
tion until it shall include, if possible  
a full suite of American Willows - together  
with such European forms as may help  
to a better understanding of the affinities  
and methodic arrangement of our native  
species. No attempt has been made at  
an orderly out put of the specimens -  
it was first come - first to go - in the  
expectation of filling in gaps hereafter.

Please tell me what you think  
of the character assigned to S. myricoides  
Muhl? Is not the hybrid S. candida x  
petrolaris a most interesting cross  
between two quite dissimilar species?  
I hope my new species will stand -  
I have certainly tried long enough to

find a place for it under every conceivable  
allied species - Comments and criticisms  
from you - whether favorable or  
otherwise can not fail to be  
profitable to me -

Our snow drifts still hinder  
no work in the field -

Yours very truly  
M. S. Bebb

Rockford Ills  
May 10<sup>th</sup> / 81

My dear Sir.

I had intended to write to you to-day. Only got back from Fontaine-dale last night. and wished to re-examine some specimens left there before writing. This Willow of yours which occurs in the Rocky Mts, Utah (Jones), New Mexico (Greene) &c attaining a height of 15 ft or more with stems 5 in thick is Salix flavescens Nutt. From the description and his remarks it is clear that Nuttall had this Rocky Mts form in view. I wrote to Prof Sargent when reporting upon his collection of Willows from the far west that I thought it would be well to separate the Pacific Coast forms and restore the old name of the flora Borealis Americana - notwithstanding the objections urged by Andersson - but upon a careful examination of all the material in my herbarium I am now convinced that this can

not be done. The two forms stand  
in very much the same relation to  
each other as do S. Scouleriana of  
the Rocky Mts and S. lasiantha and  
var laevigolia of California & Oregon  
and also in like case it is on the  
Sierra Nevada that the intermediates  
are found. If I had only possessed  
the specimens from James Greene, Mrs Austin  
Prof Sayers & myself which I now have  
at the time I was so puzzled to know  
what disposition to make of this  
species in the Flora of Cal I would  
have described the plants of the  
Rocky Mts and the Sierra Nevada as  
S. pubescens with typical and the  
Coast forms as a var or subspecies  
Scouleriana. Nuttall evidently intended  
his S. stagnalis to cover the Oregon  
Willow but the description is almost  
too ambiguous for preservation - and yet  
it would need to be cleared away  
before we could come down to  
S. pachystachya Nutt. - It is in the  
character of the aments (clearly described  
by Hooker) that this species is distingui-  
shed from all other known species  
of the Pacific Coast - The leaves

furnish no safe distinctions. For  
occasionally the leaves of Scudleriana  
are quite as satury beneath as  
those of Sutchensis. There is only  
this objection — if Scudleriana is  
good enough for a variety name then  
"by the same token" it should stand  
for the type of the species and the  
Rocky Mtn Willow become its variety  
flavescens — and this is precisely the  
point which I feel unable to  
decide! My conviction is that the  
two can not be separated as ~~two~~  
good species — the characters by which  
at first sight we would seek to  
distinguish them are inconstant — do  
not correspond with each other — and  
fail entirely when we come to the  
specimens from the Sierra Nevada —  
The question of precedence you, and  
Prof Payson are better qualified to  
decide than I.

I will take the liberty of moving  
this to Prof S. — to be handed to you.  
Did you get my Willows — and how did  
the elucidation of the much vexed S. myricoides  
Muhl strike you?

Yours very truly  
M. S. Zelt

Prof James Watson

Platinum of  
Prof E. V. Day



of  
Fountaindale Ill  
Aug 6/81

My dear Mr Watson

Will you please  
give me the name  
of the plants of which  
I inclose fragments

A is from Dakota or  
Wyoming - grows in a  
dense covered thicket, I  
should guess, from the  
little specimen sent  
me - *Astrag. triphyllus*

B - is from Nebraska  
- Habit described as that  
of *Amaranthus hybridus*.

Both com. chlorostachyus  
C - from same locality

as B\_

An inquiry which I hope may not seem superfluous. Will you be sending in an order for herb. soon and if so may I join with you to the extent of 10 reams herb paper. One ream seems covers? - Through the kindness of Dr. Gray I have obtained heretofore my supply in this way - and as my acquisitions are not extensive nowadays

10 reams would keep me going for several years. I am hoping after I get fairly settled in Rockford to find a little more time to devote to botany in an amateur fashion - and a little spare change left for purchasing Western plants -

Yours very truly  
W. S. Lobb

Rockford Ills  
Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> / 81

B. L. Robinson Esq  
Bloomington Ills

Dear Sir

It is much to be regretted that Mr Patterson published such a limited edition of his Catalogue. I did take 5 extra copies at 50 cts each but these were very soon given away to botanical friends (in return for similar favors) so that now I have none to spare

Otherwise it would have given me pleasure to send you a copy.

Yours very truly  
C. S. Sill

P.S. I have just returned home from a two months' visitation - and find your letter on my table. So much for an apology for delay in answering.

Sept 7th. 87.  
No. 2 13246  
13246

Rockford Ills Post 1302  
Jan 31 / 82

My dear Mr Watson

Recalling the appreciative interest you took in the Calif. Willows at the time I was pottering over them - and how much I benefited by your criticisms I venture to submit the enclosed, intended for publication in Cutlers Gazette -

Again and again I have gone over the views presented - putting myself in the attitude of a critic bound to blow the whole thing up if a big mistake could be detected. only to feel satisfied that I was fully sustained by facts - still the err is human - and I don't want to risk making a big blunder when a little prudent consultation with conservative friends might save me,

Kind regards to Dr Gray  
whom I can imagine full of  
work and good spirits as I ever  
found him ~~in~~

Very truly yours  
C. M. S. Beth

1886

24  
Fountainaine Ills

July 13<sup>th</sup> 1882

Mr. James Watson

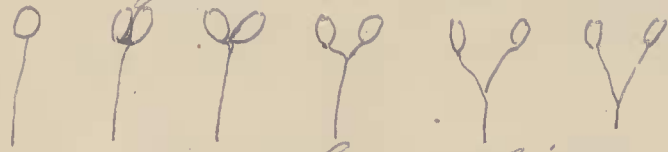
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Sir:

Having the pleasure to receive the copy of Andersson's Monographs advertised in the sale of the library of your British namesake - and finding no better in two separate attempts to get copies advertised by Berlin dealers - I am finally, through placing a standing order in the hands of a London agent, made the happy possessor of the long sought work - and will return the volume belonging to Dr. Gray at the earliest opportunity - with many thanks for the unexcusable long time that I have kept it.

I have lately received from Mr. Howell flowers of Salix Helotensis which confirm in the most satisfactory way the relationship which I ventured to suppose

with the old world Succinea and  
Purpurea - A simple answer  
would afford forms like this



Some of the filaments seem  
separating completely.

Yours very truly  
W. S. Kelly

P.S. I have long been wishing for  
an opportunity to consult the 2<sup>d</sup> vol of  
the Flora Boreali-Americana - and have  
counted upon a trip east as most likely  
to afford me these satisfactions - but the  
chances look rather slim in that direction.

Would you - sometime next winter - visit  
the volume by express - giving me one  
week for study, and then to return - or  
is it "against the rule" - There is not  
a copy of the work - that I know of - in  
the state of Illinois. B -



926 Grant Ave

Rockford Ills

Feb 12/84

Mr Lewis Watson  
Cambridge Mass

My dear Sir:

Regret Salix

Drummondiana Banard. be included  
in a list of Rocky Mtn species of  
the U. States? I do not know just  
where Drummond collected, and while I  
took copious notes of the specimens in  
D Torrey's herb some years ago I  
neglected to make a memorandum  
of the habitat, if any was given.  
They are from the "Rocky Mountains."

Investigating S. Fendleriana Auden's  
species in connection with its reported  
occurrence in the Rocky Mountains I  
was led to the complete and interesting  
determination of some plants recently  
collected by Mr. A. S. Peck as the long-  
leaved Salix mesoamericana Nutt. The  
agreement with Nutt's extended  
and rather unusually accurate  
description is perfect and the

Ms. 520  
110m. N. S. D. bond

determination is sustained by tracings  
of the few specimens and a few  
fragments from David Kirk and  
now right here - comes in another  
of these peculiar cases, the Ernst  
case made by Prof Robinson of the  
material he had in hand - With  
4 specimens of Stictis before him  
accepted - Stictis proserpin var  
genuis longi \* Stictis macrocarpa July 1840 for  
the Stictis macrocarpa is longi! - He takes  
Stictis macro - assigns it to a plant  
from "Kew's Journal" (which by the  
way, can not be found in place "Olive")  
- a plant that Stictis never saw - and  
then re-describes Stictis macro as  
a new species Stictis macrocarpa, Robinson, I  
can't understand it! To talk of  
the habit of Stictis macro being  
mistaken for Stictis macro - based  
upon the accidental omission of Stictis in  
the Journal - The specimens, which he  
says he saw, are titled "Olive" - I  
have written to Kew about it -  
tentatively - involving both our species  
which must be macrocarpa Stictis - there  
can be no going back on that - and

which if not also Geyerana must  
be distinguished by some character  
not given in the description - which  
is not at all likely - Our plant  
in the Californian flora will thus  
become S. Drummondiana -  
something - It is different in the  
main than S. rigida - smaller flowers  
& more silky leaves - still scarcely  
enough I think to warrant separation.

We moved into our new house  
last December and have been gradually  
settling down to the ordinary routine  
of home life - right in the teeth of  
such a winter as "you read about" -  
I have also last got all my botanical  
treasures safe under one roof - and  
rejoice in a snug little study - opening  
out of the family living room -

Please drop me a line about  
S. Drummondiana. Ought I to include it  
among our Californian flora - to direct  
attention to its possible discovery?

Yours cordially  
A. N. S. P.

926 Grant Ave

Rockford Ill

Feb 12/84

My dear Mr Watson

One thing more  
I intended to write about this  
morning but it slipped my mind  
at the time -

In looking over all my  
*Saxifraga reticulata* I notice quite a  
uniform difference between the  
Rocky Mountain plants and those  
from Europe - a difference quite  
sufficient to warrant their recog-  
nition as a variety - providing  
I am not generalizing from insufficient  
material - The leaves are narrower  
more pointed (never obtuse), less reticulate  
and thinner in texture.  
I wonder if this will hold true of  
your herbarium - and would it do  
the stretch to make it a subspecies or take it  
as a variety all the way to the  
*reticulata*? It may be only a variety  
while - but I am anxious to see how you

will give the 14th Nov 3rd Anniversary  
celebration in the evening. 8.30  
even

Yours truly  
M. L. Webb

Moscou, Soc. Nat. Nouv. Mem. 926 Grant Ave

II. 259  
(1832)

Rockford Ills

Feb 21/44

My dear Mr Watson

Was Dr Gray the  
paper by Frantzen which is  
given by Andersson under the  
abbreviated title "De Sal frigida  
in Mem. de la Soc. des Nat. de Moscou  
t 8, p 281-346" —

I know he has many memoirs  
of the kind extracted from the  
Transactions in which they were  
originally published — possibly you  
may have the volume in the  
Library — If so would you dare  
risk either by registered mail to be  
returned in a few days — Or if it is  
not asking too much would you copy  
for me the descriptions of Salix Callicarpae  
and S. diplodictya — published therein —

And will you — I'm almost ashamed  
to name anything more — please send  
me a rough tracing of the plate in  
Ledeb. Fl Rossie t 468 of S. glauca &  
macrocarpa

I have in hand a number of specimens  
from Labrador, all the way to the Arctic  
and S. places, about which I have  
been exercising my mind, & at  
length for a few past winter  
months, have, very satisfactory  
conclusions - A very brief report from  
Kew. but made after "four hours  
work at the Herbarium" does not  
help much save in a negative way  
by saying that the specimens are  
not "accurately identifiable as any part of an  
North American Salix"

Yours very truly  
W. S. Peck

926 Grant Ave  
Rockford Ills  
April 7/84

D. A. Gray

My dear Sir

When I received that interesting collection of N. W. Arctic Palices from Mr Watson I looked the specimens over in a kind of bewildered mood and concluded to keep them on my table to brood over. To work through in time cautiously, taking a step here and there and then stopping to consider if by possibility I could be mistaken before going further. But your request - already too long held in abeyance precludes such leisurely ways and as you kindly ease up on a fellow by asking for a "talky talky" report" subject to your criticisms I will give you my present impressions.

The collections from the Commander Island present

No 135 a fragment only showing a single  $\sigma$  armament but though this material is so scant there can not be any doubt I think about the species - D. speciosa H & N



Nos 239137-31-220-244-196 several forms  
all referable - in my opinion to  
*P. crassifolia* "Tree herb ex Frank Pal. Frigid"  
- De Prodr N. 2, 283; Anderssons, *P. Pallasii* seems  
to be another of these instances - like the  
*P. repens* - where the right, assumed to impose  
a new name upon a new aggregation  
of forms - the older names included as  
forms thereof

Turning now to the collections from  
Point Barrow the most strikingly interesting  
form No 65 is happily well represented both  
in ♂ & ♀ aments - mature capsules and leaves  
This can not be other than *P. ovalifolia* Frank  
Clearly our plant is an arctic modification  
of *P. myrtilloides* with subsessile capsules &c  
to distinguish it - It can not be *P. fuscescens*  
And which we know by the good figure in  
Botany of the Beechey Voyage - nor the doubtful  
variety minor described under that species.  
Therefore the latter appears to be a transition  
toward our plant - Beyond these there  
is no possible reference to be made in  
Anderssons Prodromus Monograph - And I may  
add that going over the description of *P.*  
*ovalifolia* critically to see if I could detect  
any difference to warrant the recognition  
of a new species I only ended in  
conviction - my self that here our plant truly belonged.

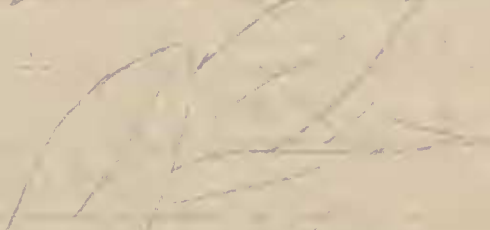
No 29 is another interesting form but  
 one which can not be so clearly determined.  
 We are led to look for *S. glacialis* in  
 a collection of willows from Prince Rupert, and  
 to this species No 29 may belong. Certainly  
 the "villous capsules, sessile; about twice the  
 length of the scales" and "stigmata sessile bifid"  
 together with a general agreement with  
 the description seems to point to such a  
 reference but the stamens in our specimens  
 are not "pallid" nor are the (very young)  
 leaves "rigid" and "nervoso-linearis". These  
 discrepancies regarding the leaf might  
 possibly disappear in specimens taken  
 later in the season, while on the other  
 hand there remains the character of the  
 capsule and especially the sessile bifid stigmata  
 very peculiar among Arctic willows (where  
 a produced style and lacinate stigmata  
 is the rule). The locality too favors  
 the probability of the plant being *S.*  
*glacialis*. Still I do not feel quite sure  
 nor do I understand how *S. glacialis*  
 with "style nullo" is arranged by the author  
 in a group characterized by "style  
 producto restructis". I imagine that  
 Anderson's plant, like our own must  
 have been more unlike *S. herbacea* &c

April 7, 77

than its growth, would suggest,  
If now leaving No 29, collected in June  
we go on the study, in connection with  
it No 97 collected in August and perplexities  
are increased. Is this No 97 a mature  
growth of No 29? If so the difficulty  
about the leaves disappears but on the  
other hand we have an widest style  
There is then in the ~~widest~~ coincidence  
with Anderssons' description (the lateral  
anther on the current year growth are  
clearly seen in No 97) which leads me  
to think that *S. glacialis* was founded  
on a form not essentially unlike either  
29 or 97 - But if this conjecture is ~~not~~  
<sup>reasonable</sup> ~~grounded~~ - I do not see how these forms  
can be clearly distinguished from *S. arctica*  
forma pusilla - to which at first glance  
I had referred Nos 6 & 97 - In other  
words I suspect that when we get more  
material - if indeed the present does not  
suffice it will be found that *S. glacialis*  
runs into *S. arctica*. Through intermediate  
forms such as Nos 77 & 6.

No 24. *S. rotundifolia* Franch. This species  
seems to be a modification of *S. polaris*  
with glabrous capsules and as such embraces  
our plant.

No 41. 12. 9. S. fulcrata And (or for as  
 Seemanns plant is concerned. I don't know  
 about the other). This is clearly of the  
Phyllocladon group and is distinguished from  
S. chlorophylla mainly by the stipules. which  
 you will observe persistent in various  
 places where the leaves have fallen. There  
 are linear and pinnate serrulate thus  
 The figure in the Monographia from  
 its crenate leaves and broad stipules is  
 decidedly not drawn from Seemanns plant  
 of which I happily have a tracing and  
 fragments showing stipules exactly like  
 those in a specimen. In the tracing  
 of Seemanns specimen the ♀ ament is than  
 fully developed accompanied by leaves  
 like this



Can't you think I might as well  
 send you the tracing in the phyl-  
 (pleon returns after you are through with it  
 - the pinnate stipules are clearly the same  
 as in our plants - as also the entire  
 leaves. This is rather as to escape being  
 misled by Redwood figures.

No 1/5 is a modification of the same

species. as is also No 89 (except a stray fragment of arctica which I have appropriated) - 616. also same.

And yet I question what disposition should be made of No 89. Andersson in his Salices Bor. Amer. fails to distinguish his S. fulcata from S. phylicoides. For instance he describes the capsules of phylicoides first as "2-3 lineas longae" and afterwards in De Prod as "semilineam longae"! In De Prod he describes the stipules of phylicoides as "anguste lanceolatas" and those of fulcata as "maximis lanceolata-ovatis" when we have enough in hand of the type specimen to know that the stipules of fulcata are not as he figures them but rather as he describes those of phylicoides. Altogether it is a bit of a mix-up which I am not prepared to maintain now. The amount of 41.12.9 open from the tip down as obtained by Andersson's method of in the usual manner.

No 62 I do not recognize.

No 128 is evidently sent by mistake. I return all the vouchers and have taken single specimens for my herbarium where there were duplicates.

7  
the spare - for which please  
accept my thanks -

I will return the specimens at  
once - as you may wish to look  
them over again - If you are led  
to question any of the determinations  
here given please tell me on  
word from me that I may correct  
the mistake if there be one - or  
sustain my position by "talking talky"  
- a good deal of which has been  
checked down - notwithstanding the  
assertion appears on the seventh  
page!

Yours very truly  
W. L. Peck

April 9, '88.

926 Grand Avenue  
Rockford Ills  
April 5/84

My dear Mr Watson

I ought to have  
written long ago to thank you  
for the beautiful and complete  
Tracing of S. glauca var macrocarpa.  
I certainly did not expect anything  
so elaborate. Had I not seen now how  
I could have been satisfied with  
less. It helps me to a clear  
understanding of the matter which  
I could not get from Anderson's descri-  
tions alone.

I do wish we could get  
Frautvetter's paper. It is almost  
"too much of a good thing" for this  
world of qualified benefits to think  
of having "examples of the originals  
upon which the species were based  
for their identification" - As for the  
paper I had a vague impression  
that the memoirs in which it  
appeared were in some of the  
libraries of Washington - and in reply